

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Sir, the reply given by the hon. Minister has surprised us. There are two types of licences—one is for the Public Sector and the other is for the Private Sector. Very frequently, we come across reports in the newspapers that so many bombs missing from the Armed Forces Ammunition Depots were found in Kanpur at other places. From where these outsiders get raw-material for manufacturing cartridges. All the dacoits manufacture cartridges and bombs themselves. Therefore, they get all required material for making cartridges and bombs. They also get bombs from Government factories and from the army. You have reports only about 3 to 4 thefts in your files. Now, when such a large number of explosions can take place with only 3 to 4 thefts, I do not know, Sir, whether the country will be safe if the number of these thefts increased by 2 or 4 thefts. Therefore, I want to know from the hon. Minister what stern measures Government propose to take to ensure that bombs manufactured in Ordnance Factories are not stolen and the gun powder given under the licences does not get into the hands of thieves and dacoits ?

MR. SPEAKER : Do not worry about the country ; it is not going to be harmed. The only thing is to tackle the anti-social elements.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : Sir, as I have already replied to these questions, the chief controller of Explosives administers the provisions relating to the manufacture of explosives and their use and the precaution during the manufacturing process, their conservation and storage under the Indian Explosives Act. If some body indulges in un-licensed and illicit manufacture of bombs and explosives, the state Government, Central Government, the Intelligence Department should take action against such people ; but chief controller of Explosives can virtually do nothing under the Indian Explosives Act. However, if any such thing comes to his notice, he immediately conducts inspection and also informs the local District Magistrate and Police officer ; responsibility of taking further action in such matters vests in these authorities.

[*English*]

American Collaboration with Indian firms in the area of Food Processing

*393. SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE :
SHRI RADHAKANTA

DIGAL : Will the Minister of
INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that American business houses are seeking collaboration with Indian firms in the area of food-processing industry ;

(b) if so, which are those U.S. Companies and who are the Indian counterparts and what are the specific products envisaged ; and

(c) what is the Government attitude towards U.S. companies collaboration in the field ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND
COMPANY AFFAIRS AND IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI
ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN : (a) There
is presently no such proposal before the
Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Proposals received will be considered on merits keeping in view the technology involved and the foreign exchange to be earned as the case of other foreign collaboration proposals.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE :
The Minister in his reply has said that at the moment, there is no collaboration. The Press has reported that for preparing instant food, one of the Indian companies has gone into collaboration with the General Food Corporation of the United States. I would like to know whether the Government is aware of it. If it is not a technical collaboration, I would like to know what it is. In any case, I would like to know whether the Companies are being allowed to enter into this field of food processing, rather I would say, food industry. This can very well be left to our own technology. With regard to coca cola, it is said that

it is not food. I would only submit that in Bengali, we say 'jol khao' and not 'peevo' That is why, coca cola, in my understanding is also food. So, I would like to know what the situation is with regard to coca cola, with all this talk about bringing back coca cola.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS AND INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : With regard to the applications made by the Indian Company in collaboration with Pepsi-cola, I have already replied to that question and I have stated that the application has been rejected. The hon. member wanted to know about the Indian collaboration with the General Food Corporation of the USA. This collaboration was approved on 22nd July 1983. I have said in my reply that presently there is no proposal before the Government. The proposal which the hon. member is referring to, was approved in 1983 because this General Food Corporation of the USA wanted to manufacture soluble coffee, frozen and dried vegetable-based protein products and powdered food beverages. The collaboration has been approved on 22 July 1983, allowing foreign equity to the extent of 33-1/3 per cent and involving a royalty of 5 per cent and a lumpsum payment of US \$ 8 lakhs. The approval was subject to the condition that 60 per cent of its production should be exported. The advantage is, according to the company's projection, the export obligation would lead to foreign exchange inflow of Rs. 99.60 crores over the first five years. This is a sophisticated project and as it is in the interest of the country, it was done.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Firstly, I would like to know the exact foreign exchange flow and not the stipulated amount. The Minister in reply to my question (c) has stated that the proposals will be considered on merits, keeping in view the technology involved. I would like to know whether this industry of food products should be left to the indigenous sources, mainly for employment and for not allowing foreign people to enter this field. I want to know whether this will be considered and on this basis they should discourage this collaboration in the field of food.

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : So far as collaboration is concerned, we have not allowed any foreign collaborator to exceed the equity, more than 40 per cent. That means even after collaboration, the majority of shares or equities are with the Indian Company. In the processing industries also, a lot of developments and a lot of revolution is taking place. For instance, products like Soyabean and other things.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Radhakanta Digal.

SMT. GEETA MUKHERJEE : How much of foreign exchange has actually come through that agreement ?

MR. SPEAKER : The Industry Ministry is monopolising all the questions and you are monopolising all the supplementaries. Is that right ?

SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : May I know from the hon. Minister whether there is a greater need to improve the present food processing units existing in the country and if so whether any new incentives are proposed to be given and steps taken to improve the existing technology of the food processing units set up in the country ?

SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL : That is what I have already said. Wherever there is a scope and wherever there is a sophisticated technology to improve the food processing industry, if applications are received, they are considered on merits.

Inadequate Publicity about Incentives to Industries

***394. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether inadequate publicity has prevented the optimal use of the wide range of incentives offered by the Union and State Governments to various industries in the country ;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for inadequate publicity on the part of Government ; and